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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : TERASHIMA et al.  
Serial No : 09/881,529  
Confirm. No. : 8571  
Filed : June 14, 2001  
For : APPARATUS EQUIPPED...  
Art Unit : 2626  
Examiner : Mark E. WALLERSON  
Dated : May 14, 2004

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Applicant requests that the Examiner consider the following references which have come to Applicant's attention.

- U.S. 6,247,784 has been cited in related Application Serial No. 08/964,257 in an Office Action dated November 5, 2003 and has been cited in related Divisional Application 09/407,446 in an Office Action dated December 22, 2003.

- U.S. 5,970,217 has been cited in Parent Application Serial No. 08/964,257 in an Office Action dated November 5, 2003.

- U.S. 5,893,006 has been cited in Parent Application Serial No. 08/964,257 in an Office Action dated November 5, 2003.

- U.S. 5,473,352 has been cited in Parent Application Serial No. 08/964,257 in an Office Action dated November 5, 2003.

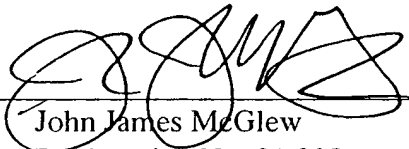
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- U.S. 5,532,825 has been cited in Parent Application Serial No. 09,407,446 in an Office Action dated December 22, 2003.

- U.S. 5,767,988 has been cited in Parent Application Serial No. 09/407,446 in an Office Action dated December 22, 2003.

Consideration of the references is requested.

Respectfully submitted  
for Applicant,

By:   
John James McGlew  
Registration No. 31,903  
McGLEW AND TUTTLE, P.C.

JJM:jms  
70214RCE.9

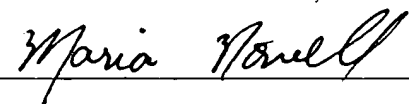
Enclosed: PTO-1449 Form  
(6) References

DATED: May 14, 2004  
SCARBOROUGH STATION  
SCARBOROUGH, NEW YORK 10510-0827  
(914) 941-5600

SHOULD ANY OTHER FEE BE REQUIRED, THE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE IS HEREBY REQUESTED TO CHARGE SUCH FEE TO OUR DEPOSIT ACCOUNT 13-0410.

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE AS EXPRESS MAIL IN AN ENVELOPE ADDRESSED TO: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, P.O. BOX 1450, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450, NO.: EV436440380US.

McGLEW AND TUTTLE, P.C.  
SCARBOROUGH STATION, SCARBOROUGH, NY 10510-0827

BY:  DATE: May 14, 2004